

# Vouchers Amounting to Over Billion Dollars Missing From the Shipping Board Report---Witness Testifies Board Had No Accounting System

## \$240,000,000 IN SECURITIES HELD WITHOUT RECORD

### Congress' Order for Accounting of Funds Never Made Because of Bad Condition of Accounts.

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]  
NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—A series of startling disclosures tending to support what he declared to be a "complete lack of adequate accounting system" in the handling of government funds were made here today by Martin J. Gillen, a witness before the Walsh congressional committee investigating the affairs of the United States shipping board. Gillen was a special assistant to former Chairman John Barton Payne.

The name of President-elect Harding was brought into the record when Gillen said he had informed Senator Harding that it was the duty of congress to see that only big men capable of handling affairs entrusted to them be appointed to all departments. He said appointments should be confirmed by the senate only when it is determined that the men named are capable and efficient.

"It has been conceded," he said, "that but few men connected with the emergency fleet corporation had an expert knowledge of accounting." And he also said that it was due to a complete breakdown of the accounting system that the board had its main trouble. Figures used today by the witness ran into billions of dollars. He testified that one of the first acts of Chairman Payne when he discovered the condition of affairs was to go to the secretary of the treasury and secure from him the services of Alonzo Tweedle, whom he made treasurer of the board. This was done about August 1, 1919, and he testified that among other conditions disclosed by the new treasurer were the following:

No Report on Funds  
There was no balance sheet showing what funds the board possessed or in what banks its funds were deposited. There was no record in the hands of the board, of securities valued at more than \$240,000,000 which the board held. The securities, he added, were found in the vaults of a trust company in Philadelphia where they had been placed for safe keeping.

There was no record showing in detail how \$2,500,000,000 had been expended up to that time.

There was no record of accounting with operators of shipping board vessels nor any way of determining how

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# GOVERNMENT TO REVOKE WESTERN UNION PERMITS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Relations between the Western Union Telegraph company and the state department, already strained to the point of open rupture, reached a new stage today where the government was understood to be considering seriously the revocation of landing permits under which the companies existing cables are operated.

The power of the executive branch of the government to take such drastic steps has never been established in the courts, but a veiled intimation of the purpose to bring it to an issue was contained in a formal statement on the controversy given out by the state department.

After announcing the refusal of the company to handle government cable messages except on prepayment, or to carry messages originating outside of the United States at reduced government rates, the statement said it had been the uniform policy of the government to allow the landing of cables only on condition that the United States should be entitled to enjoy the same privileges with regard to the control and use of such lines as were exercised by foreign governments.

It was obvious, the statement added, that the United States could not be expected to allow the Western Union company, an American corporation, to charge for government messages twice the rates charged the British and other governments.

While the nature and scope of executive authority over the landing and regulation of cables lacks congressional or court definition, the present administration has taken the position that wide power was vested in the president through his constitutional control of foreign relations. Examination by the state department of the legal rights of the United States was held during the terms of Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland and Harrison.

A contrary position was taken, however, by Secretaries Olney and Gresham, and it was held a situation might arise in which the department's power, a legislative act to declare and ratify the government's authority was sought at the last session of congress.

## SENATORS CONSIDERING ACTION TO REVIVE WAR FINANCE CORPORATION TO AID AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Senators from the western and southern states are considering urging legislative action to revive the war finance corporation. They said today this was the only agency which could give immediate help to agricultural interests in the "appalling" situation resulting from the sudden fall in prices.

Conference of western senators and representatives to discuss the matter will be called, it was said, when Chairman Gronna, North Dakota, of the senate agricultural committee arrives in Washington.

One suggestion is that congress adopt a mandatory resolution directing the immediate revival of the corporation.

In an appeal to President Wilson to restore the corporation, Senator Dail of South Carolina wrote that he had discussed the matter with Secretary Houston and added:

"I must say that he does not comprehend in the least the situation, or he does not desire to assist the American producer and I feel that it is absolutely useless for anyone to confer with him further on the subject."

"I have conferred with all the leaders of our party and I have not yet found a single man who does not agree that the war finance corporation should resume operations at once."

The executive committee of the national board of farm organizations will meet here next Monday to discuss possible relief measures.

Delegations named at the recent agricultural conference here also asked Secretary Houston to rehabilitate the war finance corporation and were met with the statement that it was not necessary, the secretary quoting exports to show the amount of agricultural products which have moved over seas.

Pages of Capper-Herman-Volstead bill legalizing collective marketing will be sent by the farmers' representatives at the coming session of congress, it was said today. They will also ask for congressional investigation for credits and rates of interests.

## ORGANIZATION OF IRISH SYMPATHIZERS TO SEND COMMITTEE TO IRELAND

### War Weariness of Greeks Cause of Premier's Defeat

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

ATHENS, Nov. 16.—One of the election aftermaths here is the circulation of a report that supporters of Venizelos planned a coup d'etat to prevent their defeat. The Italian minister is said to have called upon Venizelos and, informing him of the plot, told the premier he would be responsible if there was any blood shed. The supporters will be retained in the new government. It is the frequently voiced opinion of political observers here that Lloyd George favors the return of Prince George to the throne.

The British prime minister indicated abandonment of Venizelos three weeks ago by his notification that Great Britain would refuse to surrender Cyprus to the Greeks.

Reasons for his defeat are said by former Premier Venizelos to be the weariness of the people with politics, their desire for a rest and for the return of soldiers from the front, and emphasis placed by opponents on the charge that he was putting Greece into the hands of foreign nations. M. Venizelos declared his charge around the fact of protracted wars in connection with his greater Greece policy, and he says popular jealousy played a part in his reverse at the polls last Sunday.

"I will have time to enjoy reading political history," he said.

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## Three Men Held as Suspects in Chicago Murder

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—Lawrence and Harris Jorgensen, two of the three men under arrest in connection with the deaths of Marie Ramsey and Lillian Thompson, actresses, whose bodies were found in Grant park Sunday, tonight made signed statements which led the police to believe that the women were subjected to a brutal attack just prior to their death. The belief of the police and of the coroner that death was due to alcoholism and exposure was not changed by the stories of the two Jorgensens, however, it was said.

Lawrence Jorgensen told the police, according to copies of the statement given out, that Marcus Brunberg and a man named McCarthy, who hitherto was unmentioned, attacked the women in Grant park in view of the two Jorgensens who were said to have remained in the automobile in which the four men and two women had been "joy riding."

Brunberg, according to the police, admitted that he and McCarthy got out of the machine with the women but said that only the woman with McCarthy had been attacked. Brunberg was under arrest and McCarthy is being sought.

It was reported that he had taken a boat for Buffalo, N. Y.

The Jorgensen statements said that the two brothers and Brunberg went riding Saturday night in an automobile which they had borrowed. On a north side street they noticed Miss Thompson straggling and took her in the car, the statements said. At her request they drove around a corner and got McCarthy and Miss Ramsey. After visiting some cabarets they went to Grant park.

The police said tonight that they did not think the Jorgensens or Brunberg were to blame for the deaths.

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—Captain Bob Roper and Bob Martin, heavyweights, tonight were matched to box 12 rounds to a decision in Baltimore November 24. They have met twice, each man winning once.

## Private Interests Will Not Influence Mexico Recognition

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Recognition of the new government in Mexico by the United States will be withheld, it was said today at the state department, until Mexico has made clear the effect to be given to article 27 of the Mexican constitution relating to property in Mexico.

Strong pressure for speedy recognition is being brought to bear on the department by some business and other interests, but a high official stated emphatically today that no corporation, no group of corporations and no group of individuals was going to deliver American recognition to Mexico.

It was made clear that the United States was not demanding as a preliminary to recognition repeal of article 27, but it was stated that if the operation of laws enacted under that section were made retroactive, the American government could not accord recognition.

The United States, officials explained, is actuated by a delay to protect American interests in the southern republic and its study of the whole situation has involved and received from American corporations and individuals having interests in Mexico statements as to conditions there and the present application of Mexican laws.

Early recognition of Mexico was forecast in a statement issued at the department some weeks ago, but apparently it is not much nearer now than it was then. Whether recognition will come before the present administration or the one to be elected next government to President-elect Obregon on December 1, is undetermined.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—After a brief respite, in which hopes were entertained of a recovery from the disturbing conditions which have attended almost every session since election day, the stock market met with fresh liquidation and short selling today. The general list fell to lowest prices for one to three years, United States Steel making a new low for three years at 80.

Today's break was the more surprising because the market began with a show of firmness, attributed principally to the assurances from banking quarters that the projected decline in securities and commodities had uncovered no points of financial weakness.

These same assurances were tempered, however, with the statement that further liquidation would have to be effected especially in retail branches of trade, before confidence in the general business situation could be restored.

Much of today's selling, which embraced a number of conspicuous issues including the film stocks, probably had their origin in these intimations. There were other covering developments, such as the very unsatisfactory state of the steel industry and the sharp decline in values of shipping charters.

Reduction of the quarterly dividend on Alcoa, rubber, diamonds and other stocks to the motor industry and affiliated trades and gave rise to the belief that many more dividend disbursements would be reduced or entirely suspended under the conditions prevailing.

Rallies of one to three points in favorite issues at the weak finish were due to the covering of nations to actual supporting or buying orders. Gilt edged rails paid toll to the day's setback, losing two to four points.

General Chemical common on a single point, while the addition of 10 points and Famous Players represented the theatrical or film issues at a loss of 11 points. Sales amounted to slightly over 1,100,000 shares.

Delegate Demands Publicity on All League Questions

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

GENEVA, Nov. 17.—South America and South Africa held the floor of the assembly of the league of nations today. Honorio Figueiredo, head of the Argentine delegation, set forth impressively the Argentine view that all recognized nations must belong to the league to make it complete and avoid the danger of the organization of a rival league.

He said that a formula must be found to permit the United States to come in and demand that the league be made more democratic by electing all the members of the council in the assembly, instead of allowing the big powers to name a majority of them, as at present.

This sounded like a formal notice to the big powers that they will encounter opposition from the smaller nations if they insist upon maintaining their nomination council.

Lord Robert Cecil, speaking in behalf of General Smuts as a member of the South African delegation, reviewed the entire report of the council to the assembly and pointed out the results obtained. He declared some general principles, among which will be complete publicity, not only for the affairs of the league, but for world affairs generally, in order to bring public opinion to bear upon abuses or infractions of the principles which are the basis for it.

Lord Robert referred to this in connection with the Polish-Albanian difficulty and introduced a resolution calling upon the league council to publish a report in its possession bearing on this question.

He commanded the greatest attention when alluding to the statement attributed to Senator Harding that the league was dead, he said that the report of the council showed it was very much alive.

After sustained applause on Lord Robert's oration, many of the delegates turned toward the seats of the French delegation, as it had been said

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## Man and Wife Found Dead in Bed—Police Investigating Cause

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 17.—Raymond E. Jarrett, 38, and his wife, 36, were found dead in bed in their home in Webster Grove, a suburban, late today. An investigation has been begun in an effort to ascertain the cause of the deaths.

—while the Republican Office is being moved to its new home on North Central Avenue

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## Master Mind of Organized Labor In New York Held Under \$100,000 Bond on Charge of Attempting to Extort Money From Contractors

LABOR FEDERATION WILL FIGHT MENACE OF RADICAL FORCES

Coahuila Strike Aggravated When Men Take Mines

Charge "Mineral Separation" Not Fair to Mines

Immigration has bearing on the question of unemployment, recognized by the labor men to be increasing at a rapid rate. The situation was characterized by J. C. Brown, a native, today as somewhat alarming and they felt

Before leaving Monday night to attend a reception at the home of Mrs. Sidney Drew in Monmouth, N. J., Mrs. Palmer arranged with her servants that they would answer the door only when the bell rang twice, sharply.

Shortly after 9 o'clock the servants told the police, the bell rang twice, the signal arranged by Mrs. Palmer, and they thought perhaps she had forgotten something. They answered the door. Clocks were wound and their heads, they were bound and placed on a bed in Mrs. Palmer's room.

Returning Tuesday morning after 1 o'clock, Mrs. Palmer said she did not want to disturb the servants and used a night key to enter. When inside she noticed some disarrangement of furniture, she said, and rang for the butler. Three men, wearing aviators and wearing false mustaches and wigs, answered. They told her the house was in danger of being robbed, she said, but she tried to pass them and was pushed back.

At the Drew reception Mrs. Palmer wore a pearl necklace valued by her at \$400,000 and two diamond bracelets. She departed past the men, she said, and the head of the stairs tripped, fell and was unable to rise. She tore her necklace and the pearls ran over the floor. Her bracelets she thrust into the bosom of her evening gown.

The men carried her to her room. After they had picked up the scattered pearls, she said, they returned, bound her, then took the jewels from her fingers and the bracelets she had secured in her dress.

Proceeding leisurely, Mrs. Palmer said, the men ransacked the house and did not leave until 7:30 o'clock Tuesday morning. Soon after the butler loosed his bonds, freed the maid and his mistress and called physicians and the police.

Mrs. Palmer is 38 years old. She formerly lived in Chicago and her former husband's name is said to be Parish.

After pleading not guilty, Brindell was held a prisoner in the criminal courts building for more than an hour, until his counsel could obtain \$100,000 bail. He was given nine days in which to amend or change his plea or make necessary motions.

The indictment, the second returned by the grand jury, contained charges growing out of the legislative investigation, contained three counts. In it Brindell was charged specifically with attempting to extort \$7500 from Jacob Fradus, a house wrecker, by threatening to call a strike of a demolition job unless the money was paid him.

Muliguer's protest was made to Judge Muliguer in the general sessions court by Martin W. Lattick, counsel for Brindell against the heavy bail. He said it was exorbitant, adding that "despite the conspicuous news lines and disclosures made before the Lockwood committee, the defendant has evinced no intention of fleeing the jurisdiction of the court."

Contractor Forced to Quit  
Because he refused to produce \$25,000 for Brindell, Fradus, upon whose testimony the labor leader was indicted, testified before the committee October 23 that he "had been bankrupted and put out of business" by Brindell.

Later, he said, he gave Brindell \$1000 for a letter which obtained a \$30,000 contract for a company organized by his son.

The indictment of Brindell was not unexpected. Payments totaling more than \$100,000 were alleged to have been received by the labor leader during the last ten months.

Amounts of payments alleged ranged from \$2500 to \$15,000, the latter being paid by H. S. Robertson, a builder, on account of an agreement to pay Brindell \$50,000 for "strike insurance" and "labor movement information."

Witness said Brindell's agents referred to these payments as "commission," "compensation," "rake off," "our bet," "divvy" and "berries," one "berry" signifying \$1000.

Brindell testified that Brindell had turned down offers of small amounts, declaring that he was no "piker." They characterized the labor leader's attitude as "bold," and said that unless they "made a move" as directed, they would not hesitate to put them out of business.

In absolute control of the building trades council, with its membership of 115,000, the workers' Brindell has been regarded as one of the most powerful factors in organized labor in New York.

Brindell was formerly a resident of Los Angeles, Cal.

Bourgot, who at the time was acting as corporal in the gendarmerie, testified he witnessed the execution of the prisoners which occurred immediately after a night attack. He testified that "during the attack which lasted half an hour, the workers' Brindell was in prison. When the attack ended, Lang ordered them out, shooting the first one in the back. The others were brought out singly meeting the same way. I was in the prison yard with other natives seeking safety."

Bourgot testified clearly and deliberately. Answering a request by Judge Advocate Major Jesse F. Dyer to identify Lang, he present, the witness rose and pointed across the table at Lang. At this juncture the court retired, subsequently announcing it would give Lang the right to question

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THREE NATIVE HAITIANS SHOT BY LIEUTENANT

PORT AU PRINCE, Nov. 17.—The direct charge that Freeman Lang, formerly a corporal in the marine corps and a lieutenant in the gendarmerie, shot three Haitian prisoners at Hinche in 1917, was made today before the court of inquiry which is investigating the activities of the American marines in Haiti by Adolph Bourgot, a native. Lang was formerly a resident of Los Angeles, Cal.

Bourgot, who at the time was acting as corporal in the gendarmerie, testified he witnessed the execution of the prisoners which occurred immediately after a night attack. He testified that "during the attack which lasted half an hour, the workers' Brindell was in prison. When the attack ended, Lang ordered them out, shooting the first one in the back. The others were brought out singly meeting the same way. I was in the prison yard with other natives seeking safety."

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